Friday, February 3, 2012

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OPI VIDEO UPDATE

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The House Office of Public Information (OPI) has updated its video library to include comments from participants of the House Pages and Messengers program.

- Florida House Messengers Reflect on Their Week
- Florida House Pages Chime In on Their Experiences

To view the latest OPI videos, please visit the <u>Public Guide</u> page of the <u>House website</u>.

NOTEWORTHY

Committee Approves General Appropriations Act for the 2012-13 Fiscal Year

On Wednesday, February 1, the House Appropriations Committee passed the House version of the General Appropriations Act for the 2012-13 fiscal year. The House's budget includes \$24.3 billion in General Revenue, \$20.4 billion in state trust funds and \$24.5 billion in federal funds for a total budget of \$69.2 billion.

The House is planning to have its final vote on the General Appropriations Act Thursday, February 9. Once the Act has been approved by the House and the Florida Senate has passed its budget bill, the next step in the process is the budget conference. During the conference, representatives from the House and Senate, appointed by the Speaker and President, respectively, work to create a single budget. Following a successful conference, appointed members produce a single report, the General Appropriations Act, to be presented to the Governor for passage.

View 2012-13 Proposed Budget Summaries or Need a refresher on Florida's budget process?

Tax Relief Package Approved Unanimously

Members of the House Finance and Tax Committee approved unanimously <u>House Bill 7087</u> on Wednesday, February 1. The bill, a package of incentives to improve economic development in the state, includes provisions that provide new or expanded sales tax exemptions for manufacturing and aircraft repair; expand tax credits for community development entities; expand distributions of cigarette tax proceeds to further development of biomedical and cancer research in the state; add two enterprise zones; increase the current corporate income tax exemption of net income from \$25,000 to \$50,000; and make changes to current entertainment industry tax incentives to increase film shooting days in Florida.

For more information on House Bill 7087, please visit the House website.



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NOTEWORTHY (cont'd)

House Members Pass House, Senate and Congressional Redistricting Maps

Members of the House of Representatives on Thursday, February 2, 2012, discussed bills approved by the Redistricting Committee on the floor and voted on the three <u>amendments filed to those bills</u>.

On Friday, February 3, members passed the following Redistricting bills:

- State House Map SJR 1176 (plan H000H9049: Google Maps, PDF map, Data and More Info)
- Congressional Map <u>SB 1174</u> (plan H000C9047: <u>Google Maps</u>, <u>PDF map</u>, <u>Data and More Info</u>)
- State Senate Map SJR 1176 (plan S0009008: Google Maps, PDF map, Data and More Info)

For additional details on the maps, visit the House's 2012 Redistricting Bills, Amendments and Resources page.

In the next step of the Redistricting process, the three bills approved by the House of Representatives will go to the Senate for passage. For a timeline of the process after legislative enactment, please visit the Public Participation section of the Redistricting website.

Have questions about the Redistricting process? Contact the House Redistricting Committee via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, the Florida Redistricting <u>blog</u>, or via email at <u>mydistrictbuilder@myfloridahouse.gov</u>.

RESOURCES

Session Live

The Session Live feature on the House website provides up-to-the-minute updates on floor action. Active only during the Legislative Session, the ticker supplies a link to the bill or amendment Members are discussing at the moment and includes a link to the live video stream of session.

DID YOU KNOW?



YourVoice

You still have time to complete YourVoice, an online rules reform survey. As part of ongoing efforts to improve Florida's business climate, the Florida Legislature wants to hear from you about the burdens imposed by our state's rules and regulations. Please take a moment to complete YourVoice Rules Reform Survey and help shape future legislation.

Get to Know Your Representative

Have you ever wondered where your state representative was born and raised, or their career outside of lawmaking? Here is your chance to learn. Check out your House Member's biography video posted on their representative page online.

Find Your Local Representative